(i) Creation of Consultancy Reserve Fund.

(ii) Exemption of 100 per cent of export income from the purview of Income Tax.

(iii) Establishment of an Indian Consultancy Centre.

Recommendation at (i) is being pursued by the Department of Science and Technology. As regards recommendation at S. No. (ii) Government has already allowed 50 per cent exemption of Income-Tax on export income. As regards recommendation at S. No. (iii), a Consultancy Development Centre has been created with the support from Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

International Seminar on food held in Bangladesh

462. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an International Seminar on "Floods—Regional and Global Environmental Perspectives" was held in Bangladesh on 4th March, 1989;

(b) whether 15 countries participated in the Seminar; and

(c) if so, what were the main decisions arrived thereat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) Over 20 countries are reported to have participated in the International Seminar at Dhaka on 4th March, 1989. The recommendations include conducting studies at regional and global levels to take care of floods and establishment of an International Institute of Environmental Studies at Dhaka.

Indian currency received at Patna airport

463. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian currency received at Patna airport from Nepal was returned back; and

(b) if so, what were the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) On the 27th March, 1989, one Royal Nepal Airlines chartered plane arrived at Patna airport with some Indian currency from the Nepal Rashtriya Bank for remittance to the Reserve Bank of India, Patna. The documents presented for customs clearance at Patna airport were examined by the customs authorities in consultation with the officials of the Reserve Bank of India, Patna, in the context of the expiry of the Indo-Nepal Treaties of Trade and Transit on the 23rd March, 89. Meanwhile, the Royal Nepal Airlines plane flew back to Kathmandu. The plane later arrived on 6th April, 89, with the currency notes and the same were allowed clearance through customs at Patna airport.

International spices fair held at Cochin

464. SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an International Spices Fair was held recently at Cochin;

(b) if so, the salient features of the conclusion arrived at the fair; and

(c) the number of contracts signed by Indian trading community with the foreign buyers and the amount of foreign exchange likely to be earned from these deals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The fair was held to popularise the Indian Spices Events of the fair included exhibitions, cooking demonstrations etc. Along with the Fair an Export Development Strategy Workshop was also held. The recommendations of the workshop included improvement in quality, maintaining stability in prices, strengthening trade information, undertaking promotional campaigns, abroad and developing a new spice mixes In the buyer seller meet which followed the fair, it is estimated that trade contracts of about Rs. 60 lakhs have been entered into with the foreign buyers. There is likely to be a spin-off effect of this Fair for future exports.

12 Noon

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now Papers to be laid on the Table.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH (West Bengal) : Sir, there should be a special discussion on this issue, on the situation obtaining in Jammu and Kashmir. (*Interruptions*)

Punjab Disturbed Areas (Amendment) Act, 1989 (No. 2 of 1989)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): Sir, I lay on the Table under sub-section (3) of section 3 of the Punjab State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Act, 1987, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Punjab Disturbed Areas (Amendment) Act, 1989 (No. 2 of 1989) enacted by the President [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—7766/89]

I. Reports and Accounts (1982-83 to 1984-85) of West Bengal Forest Development Corporation Limited, Calcutta related papers

II. Notification of the Ministry of Environment and Forest (Department) of Environment, Forest and Widlife.

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

I (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Ninth Annual Report and Accounts of the West Bengal Forest Development Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1982-83, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(ii) Tenth Annual Report and Accounts of the West Bengal Forest Development Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1983-84, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(iii) Eleventh Annual Report and Accounts of the West Bengal Forest Development Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1984-85, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioend at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—7809-A/89 for (1) and (2) above.]

II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Environment and Forest (Department of Environment, Forest and Wildlife) Notification S.O. No. 237 (E), dated the 29th March, 1989, publishing the modification in the Notification S.O. No. 394(E), dated the 16th April, 1987 to include the more entries i.e. officers of the Ganga Project Directorate as the authorised officers for launching prosecution, under section 26 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—7792/83]